

## **Lt. Governor Joined by Local Business, Labor and Economic Development Leaders to Address State's Higher Ed Challenges**

On Ninth Stop of Statewide "Listening Tour," Garamendi and Experts Examine Role of CSU in California's Future Workforce

San Diego, CA – Continuing to push his new action plan for California's public universities, Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi today brought together a team of leading experts to offer ideas for addressing the state's higher education challenges. At a forum at California State University, San Diego, the ninth stop on his "Listening Tour" of CSU campuses, the Lieutenant Governor heard from experts about the system's role in preparing California for the future and developing the workforce of tomorrow.

"As a California State University Trustee and University of California Regent, I'm thrilled to be able to hear firsthand from students, faculty, campus and business leaders about the important ways in which our public universities impact our people and our economy," Garamendi said. "By working together to strengthen our higher education system, we can boost the productivity of our state, opportunity of our students and the success of our businesses."

The Lt. Governor also addressed the increasing demand for more nurses, teachers and other technical professionals, as well as the recent report by the Public Policy Institute of California that suggests that the state will soon face a serious shortage of college educated and other high skilled workers.

"It is vital that California find innovative answers to meet worker shortages in critical fields such as nursing and teaching," said the Lt. Governor. "I believe that with a renewed commitment and thoughtful planning, our world-class higher education institutions will be able to better prepare our students for future careers and help our state maintain its leadership in the global economy."

The Lieutenant Governor was joined today by leading local experts including: Nancy Marlin, Provost, San Diego State University; Carl Winston, Director, Hospitality and Tourism Management; Lou Murillo, Compact for Success; Dr. Nadine Bezuk, Director, In Students Achieve Math; Ginger Eves, Director of College, Career and Technical Education, San Diego City School District; Trudy Gerald, Associate Dean, Center for Applied Competitive Technologies, School of Math, Engineering and Technologies, San Diego City College; Dr. Gail K. Naughton, Biocomm; Chuck Flacks, Policy Analyst, San Diego Workforce Partnership; Eddie Barnes, Southern California Regional Director, SBCTC; and James Poet, President, Associated Students, San Diego State University.

Since February, the Lieutenant Governor has held similar forums at the CSU Fresno, Bakersfield, San Bernardino, East Bay, Los Angeles and Sacramento campuses, and the California Polytechnic Universities at Pomona and San Luis Obispo.

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